

United States Department of Agriculture

December 22, 2003

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration

TO: Procurement Council Members

Office of Procurement and Property Management

FROM: David J. Shea

Chief

Procurement Policy Division

300 7th Street Southwest Room 302 Reporters Building

SUBJECT: Integrated Acquisition Environment (IAE)

Washington, DC 20024-9300

The purpose of this memorandum is to update the summary information regarding the Integrated Acquisition Environment (IAE) E-Government initiative and related Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) cases provided by Department of Agriculture (USDA) Procurement Policy Division (PPD) memorandum of April 1, 2003.

Since our April 2003 memorandum, briefings by the IAE Project Manager and Deputy Project Manager have been provided to the USDA Procurement Council and to attendees at the USDA Procurement Conference in May 2003. A number of FAR cases, supporting the IAE initiative, have been published as final rules. USDA is in the process of implementing a number of these changes, including the requirement for vendor registration in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database and the establishment of a new contract document numbering system.

The Federal Technical Data Solution (FedTeDS) E-Gov Project Implementation Manager is currently scheduled to provide a briefing on FedTeDS at the January 2004 Procurement Council meeting. FedTeDS, which is a part of the IAE initiative, allows users to securely disseminate sensitive technical data related to solicitations found on FedBizOpps.

The IAE is structured into five (5) business areas, as follows:

• Business Partner Network (BPN) – Single point of registration and validation of supplier data accessed by all agencies, using the current Central Contractor Registration (CCR) (http://www.ccr.gov) as the foundation. USDA is currently in the process of implementing the recently published change to the FAR which requires vendor registration in CCR.

The objective of BPN is to provide a web-enabled capability for identifying federal and industry trading partners (*http://www.bpn.gov*). It will create a single source of information for buyers and sellers including Equal Employment Opportunity compliance checks, size status, the Excluded Parties Listing System, past performance evaluations, SBA's ProNet and DoD's CCR.

It will include grantees, federal entities and companies seeking to do business with the Federal Government.

- Acquisition Information Reporting (AIR) An electronic infrastructure the Government will use to manage, collect, and report statistical and regulatory information related to Federal acquisitions. At this time the primary system implemented is the Federal Procurement Data System – Next Generation (FPDS-NG) (https://www.fpds.gov).
- eMarketplace The objective is to provide common on-line access to
 Governmentwide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs) and other multi-agency
 contracts to simplify selection and leverage Government buying, by
 providing information on existing contracts available for governmentwide
 use. Long-term, it will provide consolidated eCatalogs for all federal
 customers and establish a common framework for consolidated viewing and
 government purchasing.

Agencies are now required to input GWAC, multi-agency contracts and other procurement vehicles into the Interagency Contract Directory (ICD). They are encouraged to use the ICD for market research for information relevant to agency acquisitions. The ICD can be accessed at http://www.contractdirectory.gov.

• Intra-governmental Transactions (IGT) – The objective is to transform intragovernmental ordering and billing to enable universal electronic processes, reduce payment and collection problems, and improve revenue and expense elimination processes for preparing consolidated financial statements.

As part of IGT, Federal agencies and organizations have been assigned DUNS numbers and registered in the CCR database through BPN. The Federal Agency Registration (FedReg) application contains the government trading partners and associated trading partner information used for IGTs. The USDA point of contact on this initiative (the USDA Agency Registration Official) is Kevin Close of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO).

• Standard eTransactions – A standard glossary and vocabulary to facilitate exchange of data between and within agencies. The Standard eTransactions Version 1.0 includes the initial definitions of Standard Information Exchanges and Standard Vocabulary based on analysis of the existing interfaces for five of the shared IAE systems - CCR, FPDS-NG, PPIRS, IGT and FedReg, and is currently under review for publication of a validated version 1.1 targeted for a January 2004 release.

A number of FAR changes have been proposed and issued to support implementation of the IAE initiative. The following list of Federal Acquisition Circulars (FACs) and FAR Cases updates the preliminary list provided by PPD memo of April 2003.

FAR changes published as part of FAC 2001-15

• Elimination of the Standard Form (SF) 129, Solicitation Mailing List Application (FAR Case 2001-032)

This change eliminated the SF 129 and removed the requirement for contracting offices to establish and maintain manual solicitation mailing lists.

• Electronic Listing of Acquisition Vehicles Available For Use By More Than One Agency (FAR Case 2001-30)

Established the regulatory requirement for the operation and use of an online directory of contracts available for multiple agency use through requirements established in the new FAR Subpart 5.6, Publicizing Multi-Agency Use Contracts.

FAR changes published as part of FAC 2001-16

• Central Contractor Registration (CCR) (FAR Case 2002-018)

Effective October 1, 2003 vendors are required to register in CCR prior to award of contracts, basic agreements, basic ordering agreements (BOAs) and blanket purchase agreements (BPAs). Existing contracts/agreements with performance extending beyond December 31, 2003 must be modified to require the contractor to register in CCR.

See Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) Advisory No. 59, Central Contractor Registration (CCR), dated October 22, 2003.

• Unique Contract and Order Identifier Numbers (FAR Case 2002-025)

An interim rule amends the FAR to require each reporting agency to assign a unique procurement instrument identifier (PIID) for every contract, purchase order, BOA, Basic Agreement and BPA reported to the FPDS; and to have in place a process that will ensure that each PIID reported to FPDS is unique, Governmentwide, and will remain so for at least 20 years from the date of contract award.

See AGAR Advisory No. 57, Document Numbering System and Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) Reporting dated September 16, 2003.

• The interim rule, which established FedBizOpps (www.fedbizopps.gov) as the Governmentwide Point of Entry, was adopted as a final rule. (FAR Case 1997-304)

FAR changes published as part of FAC 2001-18

• Federal Procurement Data System (FAR Case 2003-19)

Provides notification regarding the availability of FPDS-NG and provides implementing guidance for reporting for contract actions starting in FY 2004.

Open FAR Cases

• FAR Case 2002-17, Elimination of the Standard Form (SF) 1417, Presolicitation Notice (Construction Contracts)

A proposed rule was published 9/16/2003, with the public comment period ending 11/17/2003. The requirement to issue SF 1417 presolicitation notices is proposed for elimination as contracting officers are now required to provide access to pre-solicitation notices through the Governmentwide point of entry via the Internet at www.fedbizopps.gov.

• FAR Case 2002-024, Electronic Representations and Certification

This case establishes the requirement for contractors to submit electronic representations and certifications via the BPN. A proposed rule is in process for publication in the Federal Register.

• FAR Case 2003-017, Wage Determinations On-Line

A proposed FAR rule to implement the use of the new Wage Determinations on-Line (WDOL) Website is being developed. The WDOL website makes Service Contract Act and Davis-Bacon wage determinations readily accessible.

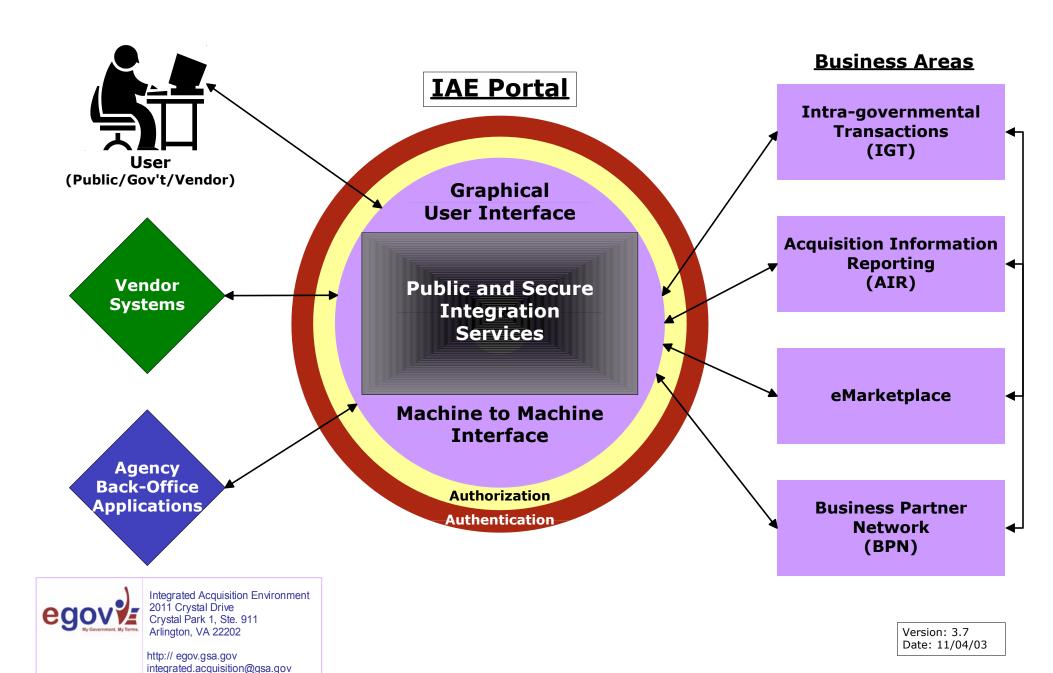
The WDOL website (http://www.wdol.gov) has been added to the USDA Acquisition Toolkit (http://www.usda.gov/procurement/toolkit/).

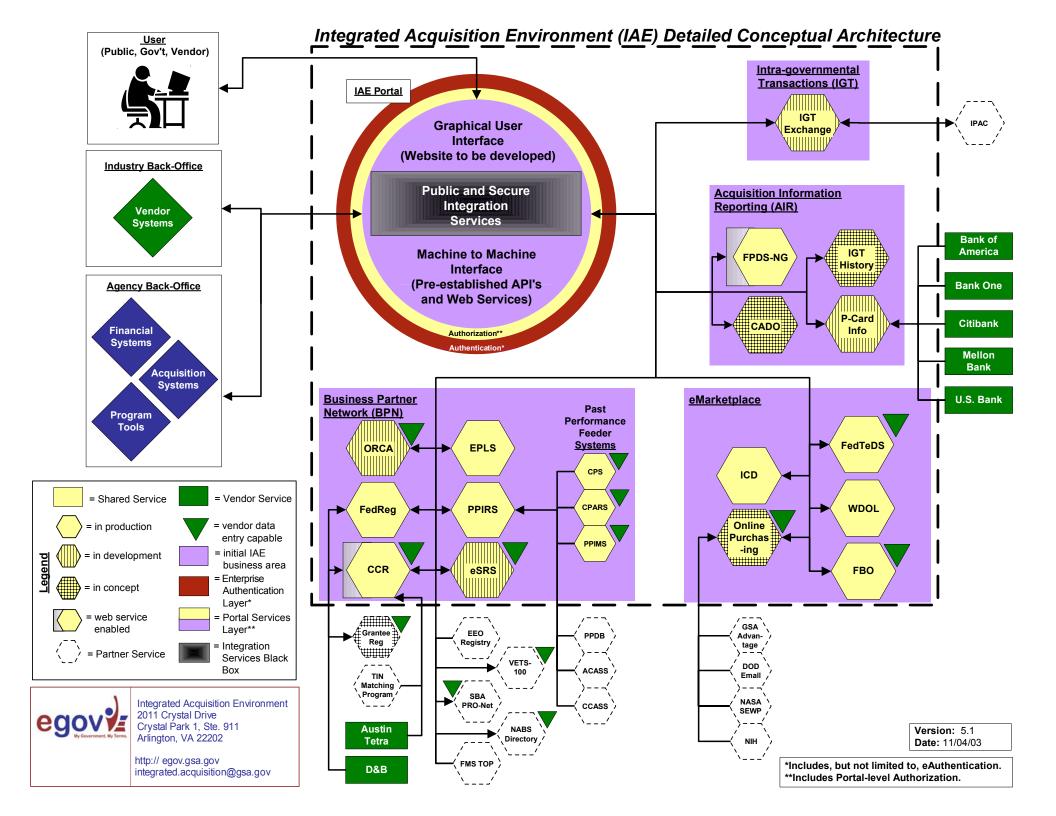
Attached are copies of recent IAE conceptual architecture drawings, including a list of acronyms. IAE bulletins describing various aspects IAE are also available on the USDA Procurement Homepage at http://www.usda.gov/procurement/toolkit/etcetera.htm. Information on IAE is available on the E-Gov website at http://egov.gsa.gov.

We will continue to provide updates as these cases progress and as the IAE initiatives are implemented. Questions may be directed to Pat Honda at 202-720-8924 or by email to pat.honda@usda.gov.

Attachments

The Integrated Acquisition Environment (IAE) High-Level Conceptual Architecture





Acronyms and Web Sites

ACASS: US Army Corps of Engineers Architect/Engineer Contract Administration Support System

https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/ct/I/welcome.htm#acass

Austin Tetra: Provider of vendor information for P-card program www.austintetra.com

BPN Portal: Provides integration, via a web interface, of the shared systems that contain supplier data www.bpn.gov

CADO: Contract Award Documents Online

CCASS: US Army Corps of Engineers Construction Contractor Appraisal Support System https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/ct/I/welcome.htm#ccass

CPARS: DoD Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System www.cpars.navy.mil

CCR: Central Contractor Registration www.ccr.gov

CPS: NIH Contractor Performance System http://cps.od.nih.gov/

eSRS: Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System

D&B: Dun and Bradstreet

DOD Emall: https://emall.prod.dodonline.net

EEOC: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission http://www.eeoc.gov/

EPLS: Excluded Parties Listing System http://epls.arnet.gov/

FBO: Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps) http://www.fedbizopps.gov/

FedReg: Federal Registration

www.bpn.gov/far/

FedTeDS: Federal Technical Data System

https://www.fedteds.gov/fedteds/start.nsf/fHome?OpenForm

FMS TOPS: Financial Management Service Treasury Offset Program http://www.fms.treas.gov/debt/top.html

FPDS-NG: Federal Procurement Data Systems "Next Generation" https://fpds.gov

Grantee Reg: Grantee Registration

GSA Advantage: www.gsaadvantage.gov

ICD: Interagency Contracts Directory

http://www.contractdirectory.gov/GovWide/home.do

IGT Exchange: Central repository for intra-governmental orders and bills

IPAC: Treasury Intra-governmental Payment and Collection system

NABS Directory: Native American Business and Services Directory www.nabsdirectory.com/

NASA SEWP:_NASA Scientific & Engineering Workstation Procurement III contract vehicle http://www.sewp.nasa.gov/

ORCA: Online Representations and Certifications Application www.bpn.gov

P-Card Info: Government purchase card

PPDB: NASA Past Performance Data Base

PPIMS: Army Past Performance Information Management System ppims/prod/ppimshp.htm

PPIRS: Past Performance Information Retrieval System www.ppirs.gov

SBA PRO-Net: SBA Procurement Marketing and Access Network http://pro-net.sba.gov/

TIN: Taxpayer Identification Number

VETS-100: DOL Veterans' Employment and Training Service http://vets100.cudenver.edu/

WDOL: Wage Determination On-Line www.wdol.gov